

Office of Communications

703-248-5003 FAX 703-248-5146

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Thursday, March 4, 2004 CONTACT: Dionne C. Williams (703) 248-5101 (703) 248-5003

Water Samples to be Collected at Falls Church City and Fairfax County Schools to Ensure Lead-Free Levels

FALLS CHURCH, VA. – The City's Public Utilities Division will partner with Falls Church City Public Schools and Fairfax County Public Schools to collect water samples from its Thomas Jefferson Elementary, Mount Daniel Elementary, and George Mason Middle and High Schools, as well as from 26 Fairfax County schools and two administrative centers that are City water customers. The City will also conduct water samples from those private schools that are City water customers.

Water samples will also be taken from 15 residential water customers. The City will begin testing Friday, March 5 and expects to receive its results next week.

Due to regional concerns about the lead levels in neighboring jurisdictions, the City's Public Utilities Division collected water samples for lead testing from about 15 residential water customers last week, which resulted in lead levels reading well below the 15 parts per billion levels required by the Environmental Protection Agency's regulations specifying that the 90th percentile results cannot exceed 15 parts per billion.

In an effort to ensure consistency and confidence in these results, the City has opted to collect the additional 15 water samples from its residential water customers as well as from the schools.

For those water customers who wish to have their water tested, they may contact the City at 703-248-5071.

Public Utilities will conduct its next round of compliance testing in June of this year.

For more information please visit the City's website at www.ci.falls-church.va.us.

###

www.ci.falls-church.va.us